
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1977

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Quall, Fromhold, Priest, Curtis, Ormsby, Hunt, P. Sullivan, Haigh, Dunn, Kenney, Morrell and Wood)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to skill centers; amending RCW 84.52.068; adding a
2 new chapter to Title 28A RCW; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that student access to
5 programs offered at skill centers can help prepare them for careers,
6 apprenticeships, and postsecondary education. The legislature further
7 finds that current limits on how school districts and skill centers
8 report full-time equivalent students and the time students are served
9 provide a disincentive for school districts to send their students to
10 skill centers. The legislature further finds that there are barriers
11 to providing access to students in rural and remote areas but that
12 there are opportunities to do so with satellite and branch campus
13 programs, distance and online learning programs, and collaboration with
14 higher education, business, and labor. The legislature further finds
15 that skill centers provide opportunities for dropout prevention and
16 retrieval programs by offering programs that accommodate students' work
17 schedules and provide credit retrieval opportunities. The legislature
18 further finds that implementing the recommendations from the study by

1 the workforce training and education coordinating board will enhance
2 skill center programs and student access to those programs.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A skill center is a regional career and
4 technical education partnership established to provide access to
5 comprehensive industry-defined career and technical programs of study
6 that prepare students for careers, employment, apprenticeships, and
7 postsecondary education. A skill center is operated by a host school
8 district and governed by an administrative council in accordance with
9 a cooperative agreement.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Beginning in the 2007-08 school year and
11 thereafter, students attending skill centers shall be funded for all
12 classes at the skill center and the sending districts, up to two full-
13 time equivalents.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The office of the superintendent of
15 public instruction shall review and revise the guidelines for skill
16 centers to encourage expansion of skill center programs. The
17 superintendent, in cooperation with the workforce training and
18 education coordinating board, skill center directors, and the
19 Washington association for career and technical education, shall review
20 and revise the existing skill centers' policy guidelines and create and
21 adopt rules governing skill centers as follows:

22 (a) The threshold enrollment at a skill center shall be revised so
23 that a skill center program need not have a minimum of seventy percent
24 of its students enrolled on the skill center core campus in order to
25 facilitate serving rural students through expansion of skill center
26 programs by means of satellite programs or branch campuses;

27 (b) The developmental planning for branch campuses shall be
28 encouraged. Underserved rural areas or high-density areas may partner
29 with an existing skill center to create satellite programs or a branch
30 campus. Once a branch campus reaches sufficient enrollment to become
31 self-sustaining, it may become a separate skill center or remain an
32 extension of the founding skill center; and

33 (c) Satellite and branch campus programs shall be encouraged to
34 address high-demand fields.

1 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop and
2 deliver a ten-year capital plan for legislative approval.

3 (3) Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall:

4 (a) Conduct approved feasibility studies for serving noncooperative
5 rural and high-density area students in their geographic areas; and

6 (b) Develop a statewide master plan that identifies standards and
7 resources needed to create a technology infrastructure for connecting
8 all skill centers to the K-20 network.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Subject to available funding, skill centers
10 shall provide access to late afternoon and evening sessions and summer
11 school programs, to rural and high-density area students aligned with
12 regionally identified high-demand occupations. When possible, the
13 programs shall be specifically targeted for credit retrieval, dropout
14 prevention and intervention for at-risk students, and retrieval of
15 dropouts. Skill centers that receive funding for these activities must
16 participate in an evaluation that is designed to quantify results and
17 identify best practices, collaborate with local community partners in
18 providing a comprehensive program, and provide matching funds.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) The superintendent of public instruction
20 shall establish and support skill centers of excellence in key economic
21 sectors of regional significance. The superintendent shall broker the
22 development of skill centers of excellence and identify their roles in
23 developing curriculum and methodologies for reporting skill center
24 course equivalencies for purposes of high school graduation.

25 (2) Once the skill centers of excellence are established, the
26 superintendent of public instruction shall develop and seek funding for
27 a running start for career and technical education grant program to
28 develop and implement career and technical programs of study targeted
29 to regionally determined high-demand occupations. Grant recipients
30 should be partnerships of skill centers of excellence, community
31 college centers of excellence, tech-prep programs, industry advisory
32 committees, area workforce development councils, and skill panels in
33 the related industry. Grant recipients should be expected to develop
34 and assist in the replication of model career and technical education
35 programs of study. The career and technical education programs of

1 study developed should be consistent with the expectations in the
2 applicable federal law.

3 **Sec. 7.** RCW 84.52.068 and 2005 c 514 s 1104 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) A portion of the proceeds of the state property tax levy shall
6 be deposited into the student achievement fund as provided in this
7 section.

8 (2)(a) The amount of the deposit shall be based upon the average
9 number of full-time equivalent students in the school districts during
10 the previous school year as reported to the office of the
11 superintendent of public instruction by August 31st of the previous
12 school year.

13 (b) For the 2004-2005 through 2007-2008 school years, an annual
14 amount equal to two hundred fifty-four dollars per full-time equivalent
15 student in all school districts shall be deposited in the student
16 achievement fund.

17 (c) For the 2008-2009 school year, an annual amount equal to two
18 hundred sixty-five dollars per full-time equivalent student in all
19 school districts shall be deposited in the student achievement fund.

20 (d) For the 2009-2010 school year, an annual amount equal to two
21 hundred seventy-seven dollars per full-time equivalent student in all
22 school districts shall be deposited in the student achievement fund.

23 (e) For the 2010-2011 school year and each year thereafter, an
24 annual amount equal to two hundred seventy-eight dollars per full-time
25 equivalent student in all school districts shall be deposited in the
26 student achievement fund.

27 (f) The school district annual amounts shall be deposited based on
28 the monthly apportionment schedule as defined in RCW 28A.510.250. The
29 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall notify the
30 department of the monthly amounts to be deposited into the student
31 achievement fund to meet the apportionment schedule. The
32 superintendent of public instruction shall ensure that moneys generated
33 by skill center students is returned to skill centers.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 2 through 6 of this act constitute

1 a new chapter in Title 28A RCW.

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